

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00

NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08

TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01

FPC-01 SCI-06 DRC-01 /188 W
----- 113754

R 281756Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0001

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GW, US

SUBJECT: FRG TARIFF QUOTA ON COAL

REF: (A) STATE 004152, (B) BONN 17452

1. EMBOFF PROVIDED THE INFORMATION IN REF A TO OSCARHILD, THE COAL EXPERT OF THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY. EMBOFF REITERATED THE POINTS IN REF B CONCERNING THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THE COAL QUOTA AND ASKED IF THE FRG INTENDED TO RAISE THE QUOTA IN THE NEAR FUTURE. OSCARHILD SAID THE FRG HAD NO IMMEDIATE INTENTION TO RAISE THE COAL QUOTA. HE SAID THE 1.8 MILLION TONS IMPORTED FROM POLAND FALL WITHIN THE OVERALL 5 MILLION TON QUOTA RATHER THAN ENTERING UNDER SEPARATE STATUS AS ASSUMED IN REF A. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE REMAINS ABOUT ONE MILLION TONS OF UNUSED QUOTA OF WHICH OSCARHILD EXPECTS POLAND TO BE ABLE TO FILL ONLY A SMALL PORTION WHEN THE FRG GRANTS IT MFN STATUS. IN RESPONSE TO AN
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EMBOFF QUESTION, OSCARHILD EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT IT

WOULD BE PREMATURE TO RAISE THE QUOTA NOW IN AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN MORE COAL IN ORDER TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE EFFECTS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS. FIRST, HE SAID, THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE THAT MORE IMPORTED COAL WOULD BE FORTHCOMING, AND SECOND, THIS IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE SALES OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION.

2. EMBOFF AGAIN RAISED THE POINT THAT THE FRG BY ITS TIGHT QUOTA SEEMED TO BE GIVING THE IMPRESSION TO WESTERN PRODUCERS THAT THE GERMAN MARKET WOULD CONTINUE TO BE A LIMITED ONE. OSCARHILD RESPONDED THAT THE FRG WOULD BE PLEASED IF US COAL EXPORTS TO GERMANY REVERSED THEIR DOWNWARD TREND OF RECENT YEARS. HE NOTED THAT THERE WERE NO GUARANTEED MARKET SHARES UNDER THE COAL QUOTA SYSTEM AND THAT THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THE US COULD NOT TAKE A LARGE SHARE OF THE QUOTA IF, AS A RESULT OF MARKET DECISIONS, US EXPORTS TO GERMANY SUDDENLY INCREASED.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 28 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Review History: RELEASED <01 MAY 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <29 MAY 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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